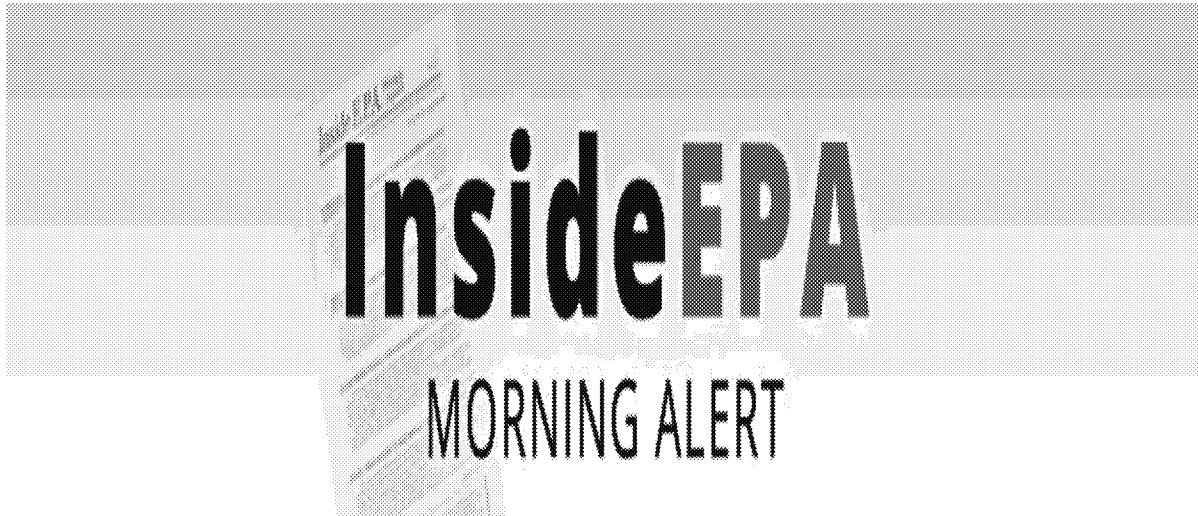


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EPA Approval Of Texas 'Affirmative Defense' Hints At National Policy Shift

EPA is proposing to approve Texas' plan to offer an "affirmative defense" shielding companies from certain Clean Air Act enforcement actions when air law violations are due to unplanned events, suggesting a possible shift in national policy from the Obama administration's general prohibition on states being able to offer the waiver.

Judge Pledges To Set 'Reasonable' Deadline For EPA Landfill Methane Rule

A federal judge is promising to set "reasonable" deadlines for EPA to implement a long-delayed Obama-era rule to limit methane, the potent greenhouse gas, from existing landfills to account for federal resource constraints while rejecting Trump administration arguments that seek to set a new bar limiting states' standing to sue over climate rules.

Utility ELG Critics Tout Ruling Vacating Provisions To Bolster Suit On Delay

Environmentalists litigating the Trump administration's partial delay of the Obama-era Clean Water Act (CWA) utility effluent rule say a recent appellate ruling striking down provisions of the rule as unlawfully lax bolsters their suit, arguing the decision undermines key EPA legal claims ahead of oral argument next week over the delay.

Court Faults EPA's 'Nonsensical' Elimination Of TSCA Rule's CBI Provision

A federal court has rejected Trump EPA efforts to drop a provision from its rule re-setting the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) inventory that had required companies to substantiate a category of confidential business

information (CBI) claims, finding its "explanation for excising that criterion was, nonsensically, a denial that it had done so."

Senators Seek Broad GAO Probe Of DOD's PFAS Liabilities, Policy Stance

The bipartisan leadership of the Senate governmental affairs committee is asking the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to open a probe into the environmental liabilities facing federal agencies such as the Defense Department (DOD) as they grapple with cleanup of the emerging contaminants per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

Daily Feed

Keystone foes seek to preserve push for new NEPA review

Environmentalists are seeking to retain an existing injunction on construction activities related to the controversial Keystone XL tar sands pipeline to leverage their claim the project requires an environmental review.

API doubts EPA will grant call to extend E15 comment deadline

The agency appears unlikely to slow the pace of its highly contested proposal to allow summertime sales of E15 fuel, despite an oil sector request for more time for public comment.

Ewire: Biden joins 2020 field but climate platform unclear

In today's Ewire: Former Vice President Joe Biden has called climate change the most important issue facing the country, though the precise outlines of his climate policy stance remain unclear.

Western states, utilities advance low-carbon power goals

Lawmakers in Washington and Nevada are adopting stronger low-carbon standards for the power sector, while New Mexico's largest utility says it can beat a new state deadline to eliminate its carbon emissions.

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